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Library System,
2727 W. 2nd St. # 233,
Hastings, NE 68901
Phone: (402) 462-1975
Fax (402) 462-1974
Toll Free 1-800-569-4961
<http://libraries.ne.gov/rvls>

Editors:

Denise Harders,
System Director,
rvlsadmin@inebraska.com

Kay Kloppenborg,
Administrative Assistant,
rvlsasst@inebraska.com

We reserve the right to
edit or refuse
all contributions.

Board Members

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Jody Crocker
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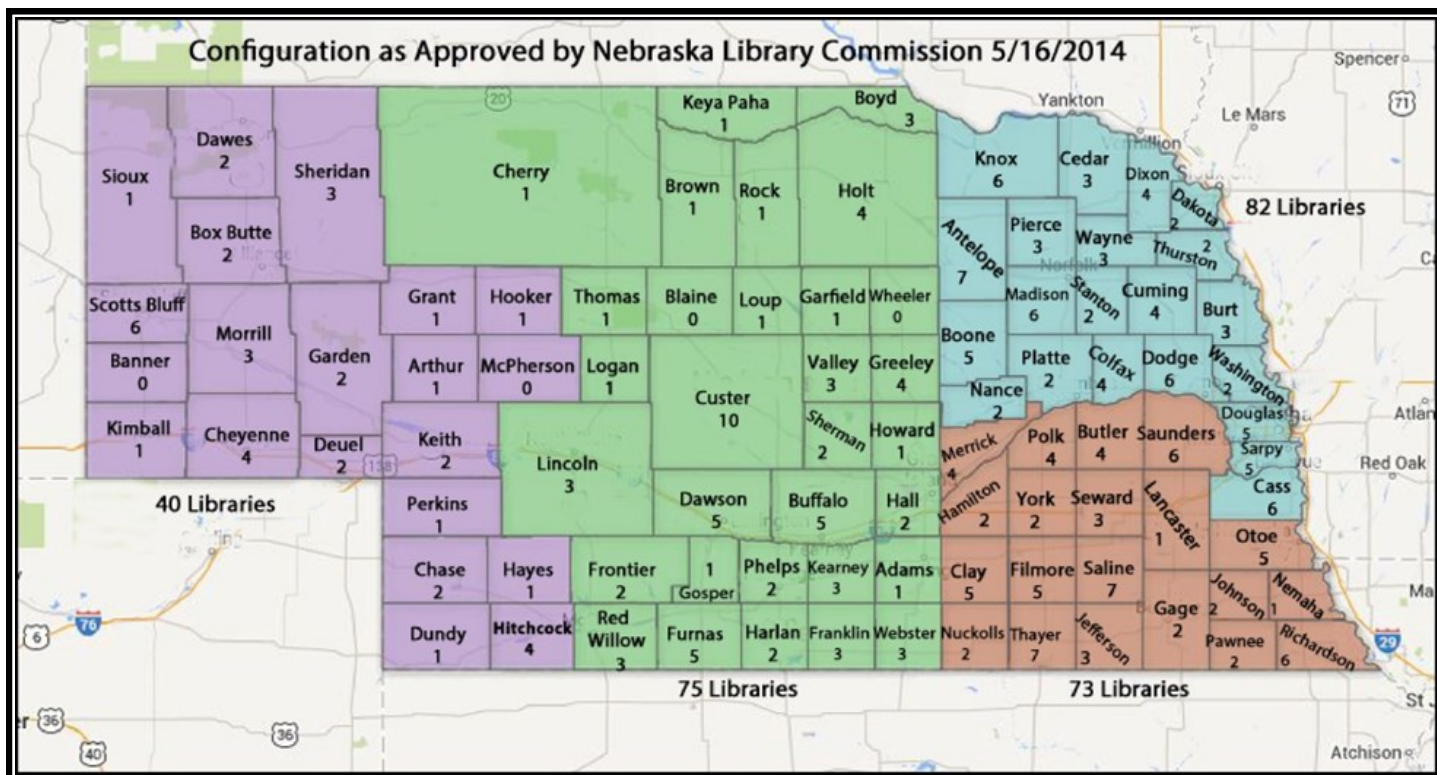
Library Commission Approves Change in Regional Library System Areas

At its meeting on May 16 the Nebraska Library Commission approved a change in Nebraska's regional library system structure based on recommendations from the Nebraska Regional Library Systems Configuration Task Force. As a result, Nebraska's current six regional service areas will be re-organized into four regional areas. The regional changes are expected to be in place no earlier than January 2015.

State and federal budget cuts in past years and flat funding in recent years prompted consideration of reducing the number of Nebraska regional library systems. Failure to secure increased funding for the current state biennium budget led to formation of the task force to develop recommendations for regional organization. The task force met several times before proposing regional options. The regional options were presented for discussion at the Library Commission's March 2014 meeting.

Library Commission staff, regional library system directors, and regional library system boards are working on implementation actions to create the new regional entities.

The Regional Library Systems Task Force Configuration report, questions and answers about regional changes, and the new regional map are available via the Library Commission's website: <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/systems/>



Gentle Reads

A patron has asked you for suggestions of “clean” books they might like. You know what they are asking for...books by novelists whose works are evocative of a polite and kindly society (little explicit sex, no profanity, and no graphic violence). This patron has already read all the books by Karen Kingsbury, Lori Wick, Beverly Lewis and Terri Blackstock.

Find more titles and authors by looking at the list of “Gentle Reads”

created by the Hennepin County Library at

http://www.hclib.org/pub/bookspace/BooklistAction.cfm?list_num=650. Mystery titles, also known as “Cozy Mysteries” can be found at <http://www.cozy-mystery.com/Definition-of-a-Cozy-Mystery.html>.

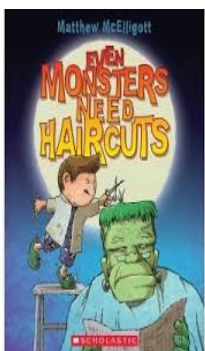


The NET Virtual Learning Library launched in fall 2012. It now contains more than 35,000 learning objects, which are sortable by topic, by grade level and by media type. New objects are added almost daily. **And it's all free** and accessible by teachers, parents, and students. The library is a service of NET Learning Services.

For more information go to <http://net.pbslearningmedia.org> to sign up for the service.

2014 Golden Sower Award Winners Announced

The Golden Sower Award committee thanks all of the teachers, school librarians, and public librarians who promoted the books in their schools and libraries. A record 75, 545 votes were recorded this year.



Primary –

Winner: *Even Monsters Need Haircuts* by Matthew McElligott

Honor: *Mitchell's License* by Hallie Durand, illus. Tony Fucile
Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein

Intermediate –

Winner: *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio

Honor: *The Unwanteds* by Lisa McMann
The Candymakers by Wendy Mass



Young Adult –

Winner: *Legend* by Marie Lu

Honor: *Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25* by Richard Paul Evans
Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys





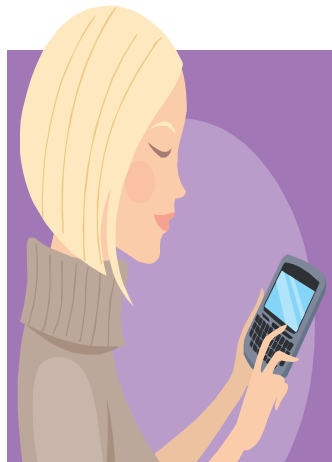
This grant awards \$5,000 for a library to use towards improving or expanding its teen collection. Funds may be used for print, non-print and/or digital materials. All personal YALSA members who represent a public library or school library are eligible to apply. Up to four grants will be awarded in 2014.

All applicants must be current personal members of ALA/YALSA at the time the application is submitted.

[Click here for the Application Form.](#)

Applications must be submitted by **December 1, 2014.**

Text Your Students or Patrons



Would you like to be able to send mass texts or emails to your students or your library patrons? There is a FREE service available called **Remind 101** <http://remind101.com>. It was originally designed for teachers, but the FAQ page states that anyone is welcome to use the website. You create different lists for your patrons...i.e. a story time list, a summer reading program list, or a library events list. Patrons go online and sign up to receive either a text or an email reminder for any or all of the lists. You prepare your message and can send it immediately or schedule a specific delivery time and date.

Hip Hughes History

Hip Hughes History offers great videos to help students review and understand United States history and World history. The videos are produced by Keith Hughes, a high school history teacher in New York. These videos are not a replacement for reading or paying attention in class, but they are terrific review of key topics in history.

[U.S. History Playlist](#)

[World History Playlist](#)





Literary ELEMENTS

ADULT SUMMER CHALLENGE

NAME: _____

Read a book at the BOTTOM of your to be read pile.	Attend A Library Program	Ask for a Demo of a Downloadable Audiobook	Share a Childhood Memory about books or stories
Read OUTSIDE for 30 minutes	Read a STAFF PICK	Read a book set in Another Country	Check out a Cookbook & Make a Recipe
Read a book with a ONE-WORD TITLE	Read a Classic	Check out a DVD and have a Movie Night	Read a book your friend LOVES
Listen to a Book on CD	Read the First Book in a YA Series	Read a book set in the PAST	Read an eBook

Are you looking for a new way to engage your **adult patrons** during the **Summer Reading Program**??

Try putting together a BINGO-style card where they can earn tickets weekly for a Grand Prize Drawing at the end.

Here are examples of some possible activities.

Thank you to Sara Wright, Berthoud, CO and Leah Kulikowski, Wamego, KS for this idea.

RVLS NEWS

Janene Hill is the new Library Director at the **Jensen Memorial Library** in Minden. She was previously a Young Adult Librarian at Grant County Library in Ulysses, Kansas.

New Public Library Accreditation Guidelines



Last summer was a very busy time for the first group of libraries going through the accreditation process under the New Public Library Accreditation Guidelines. The Republican Valley Library System had six libraries in this class, and I am happy to report that all six

libraries retained their accreditation.

Here are the RVLS medal-winners:

Bartley Public Library—Bronze
 Elwood Public Library—Bronze
 Franklin Public Library—Silver
 Nelson Public Library—Bronze
 Oxford Municipal Library—Silver
 Trenton Public Library—Bronze

Congratulations!

More Information, More Often

The RVLS Board has approved a plan to provide System Members with six *ValleyTalk* newsletters per year. In the past we published four newsletters in print format. In order to provide better service, we are going to alternate between print and online newsletters. Three will be in print and three will be posted to the RVLS website and also distributed through the RVLS email list. To make sure you don't miss out on vital information, sign up for the RVLS email list on the Nebraska Library Commission's webpage.

A Message

The staff at the **Holdrege Area Public Library** was surprised and pleased to see a heart-warming message on the sidewalk in front of the library's entrance. A patron has expressed his/her appreciation in this very public way, twice!



Hildreth Public Library Expansion and Renovation

The plan to expand the Hildreth Public Library was established in the spring of 2006. Now, several years, 37 fund-raising activities, and four grants later, the Hildreth Public Library Board, the Board of the Friends of the Library group, and Library Director Vicki Casper, unveiled this new space for their community on Sunday, May 11, 2014. More than 100 people came to see the results of the project that doubled the size of the pre-renovation library.

It hasn't been easy, but it has been very rewarding to see the Building Fund grow. Here is just a partial list of the fund-raising activities:

- ✦ Bake Sales
- ✦ Harvest Lunches
- ✦ Christmas Gift Wrapping
- ✦ Tractor Pull Concessions
- ✦ Pancake Dinner
- ✦ Chocolate Lover's Sale
- ✦ Underwater Pitch Tournament
- ✦ Outdoor Movies
- ✦ Ugly Cookbook Contest



This is truly a success story
for the village of Hildreth.

Congratulations!





On the Bookshelf

- *After I Am Gone* by Laura Lippman
- *And The Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseine
- *Carolines Child* by Debbie Macomber
- *Highway* by C. J. Box
- *Innocence* by Dean Koontz
- *Practice to Deceive* by Ann Rule
- *Starry Night* by Debbie Macomber
- *Still Life With Bread Crumbs* by Anna Quindlen
- *The Things They Carry* by Tim O'Brien
- *15 Minutes* by Karen Kingsbury

2014 RVLS Board Meetings

June 6, 2014—Annual Meeting, McCook City Library

September 5, 2014—Jensen Memorial Library, Minden

November 7, 2014—Conference Call



Mark Your Calendar



June 2-13	Basic Skills—Reference
June 6	RVLS Annual Meeting, McCook City Library
June 9	McCook City Library Open House, 4-7 p.m.
June 16-27	Basic Skills—Management and Supervision
July 4	Independence Day Holiday—RVLS Office Closed
July 7-18	Basic Skills—Intellectual Freedom and Core Values of Librarianship
July 17	Nebraska Library Leadership Institute Reunion, Love Library, UN-Lincoln
July 21-Aug. 1	Basic Skills--Communication
September 1	Labor Day Holiday—RVLS Office Closed
September 5	RVLS Board Meeting, Jensen Memorial Library, Minden
September 8-19	Basic Skills—The Community and the Library
October 8-10	NLA/NSLA Annual Conference, South Sioux City

Disc Cleaning and Repair

- From July 1, 2013, thru June 30, 2014, each RVLS member library has 10 free disc cleanings.
- If you have more than 10 discs that need fixing, you may send them to us and we will repair them and send them back with an invoice for 50 cents per disc.
- If you come to the RVLS Office in Hastings and pick up the repaired discs, the charge is 35 cents per disc.



A similar service at a retail video outlet costs more than \$5.00 per disc!

The RTI ECO Auto-Smart is amazing! It will repair almost all scratches, no matter how deep. However, if the disc is cracked, we cannot fix it.



Summer Movies

Sally Snyder, the Coordinator of Children and Young Adult Library Services for the Nebraska Library Commission searched the Movie Licensing USA database (<http://library.movlic.com/>) for movies related to this summer's theme, Fizz, Boom, Read. Here are the titles she found that are covered by the license for public libraries:

WALL-E - 2008 from Disney, rated G (robots)

Meet the Robinsons - 2007, inventor boy travels into the future (the family does have a robot helper), rated G

Treasure Planet - 2002, a reimagining of Treasure Island, with the boy, Jim, joining a crew on a space ship to find the fabled planet and its treasure, rated PG

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs - 2009, inventor accidentally affects the weather and food falls from the sky instead of rain, rated PG

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 - 2013, inventor learns his "water-to-food" invention is still working and is crossing animals with food, such as tacodiles, rated PG.

The Iron Giant - 50-foot robot falls into a lake from the sky. A boy finds him and hides him from the authorities, who are afraid of him. (1999 animated version) rated PG

Honey, I Shrunk the Kids - 1989, Disney, an inventor (Rick Moranis) is working on a shrink things and while out of the room, his children and neighbor kid are accidentally shrunk to tiny size, rated PG

Honey, I Blew Up the Kid - 1992, Disney, this time the family's 2-year-old boy accidentally gets larger with each touch of electricity, rated PG

Honey, We Shrunk Ourselves - 1997, Disney, the third and final movie of the series. The scientist (Rick Moranis) his wife, his brother and the brother's wife are all accidentally shrunk, rated PG

Short Circuit - 1986, robot #5 escapes from a lab and begins to learn about people and the world, rated PG

Son of Flubber - Disney from 1963 w/ Fred MacMurray (unfortunately, ***The Absent-Minded Professor***, the first movie from Disney about the inventor, is not covered by the license.) rated G

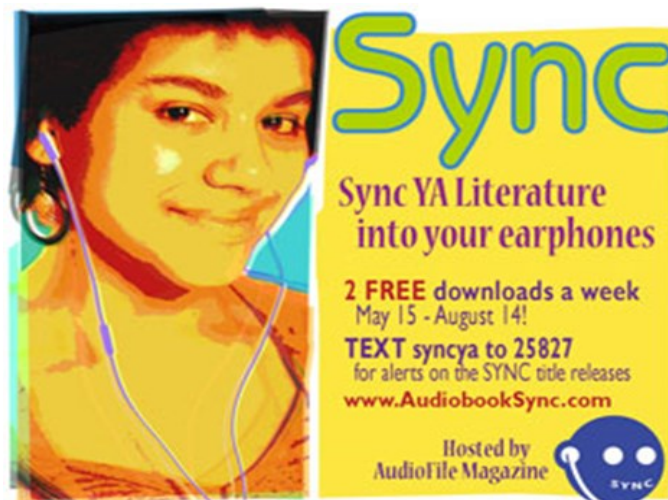
Some of them are (more than) a bit older, but could still be fun for your viewers.

Dell Reconnect: Donate any brand of computer to Goodwill



Technology is improving every day. Today's computers are quickly leaving yesterday's systems in the past — or in your closet, basement or attic. Dell has made it easy for you to recycle your used computer equipment through Dell Reconnect, a partnership with Goodwill Industries. Simply take your old computer equipment of any brand, in any condition, to one of Goodwill's 2,000+ participating locations throughout North America and we'll make sure your system and accessories are refurbished or recycled responsibly.

Click on this link to find a participating Goodwill location near you: <http://dellreconnect.com/locations.php>.



SYNC is a program that gives away two complete audiobook downloads—a current Young Adult title paired thematically with a Classic or Required Summer Reading title—each week to listeners ages 13+ while SYNC is in session each summer.

Titles are delivered through the OverDrive Media Console. You can prepare for the program by downloading the software to your desktop and whichever device you anticipate listening on.

Ellison on the Move

Here's the schedule for the Ellison, if you want on the schedule please contact us, or if it is near you, perhaps you could work out something with your neighbor.

June 1, 2013—Dundy County Library, Benkelman

July 1, 2014—Superior Public Library

August 1, 2014—Red Cloud High School

Sept. 1, 2014—Silver Lake School, Roseland

Oct. 1, 2014 (Open—your name could be here)

Nov. 1, 2014—Southern Valley Schools, Oxford

Dec 1, 2014 (Open—your name could be here)

If you would like to schedule a time for your library to use the Ellison.

Please email us at:

rvlsasst@inebraska.com or
rvlsadmin@inebraska.com

The Year's Best Crime Novels

This list was prepared and published in the May 1, 2014 issue of *Booklist*:

[**The Cairo Affair.**](#) By Olen Steinhauer. 2014. Minotaur, \$26.95 (9781250036131).

[**How the Light Gets In.**](#) By Louise Penny. 2013. Minotaur, \$25.99 (9780312655471).

[**In the Morning I'll Be Gone.**](#) By Adrian McKinty. 2014. Prometheus/Seventh Street, \$15.95 (9781616148775).

[**Natchez Burning.**](#) By Greg Iles. 2014. Morrow, \$27.99 (9780062311078).

[**Night Film.**](#) By Marisha Pessl. 2013. Random, \$28 (9781400067886).

[**An Officer and a Spy.**](#) 2014. By Robert R. Harris. Knopf, \$27.95 (9780385349581).

[**The Orphan Choir.**](#) By Sophie Hannah. 2014. Picador, \$25 (9781250041029).

[**The Rules of Wolfe.**](#) By James Carlos Blake. 2013. Mysterious, \$24 (9780802121295).

[**Shovel Ready.**](#) By Adam Sternbergh. 2014. Crown, \$24 (9780385348997).

[**The Thicket.**](#) By Joe R. Lansdale. 2013. Little, Brown/Mulholland, \$26 (9780316188456).

Click on the title to see the review on the Booklist Online website.



School Library Journal VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

July 24, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.



The third annual **Summer Teen** virtual conference presents popular YA authors talking about their writing experiences and current and forthcoming titles in an engaging, conversational format, including live Q & A with the audience.

Hear directly from publishers on their newest books you'll want for your collection this year, and enjoy live chats with featured authors.

All this and more from the convenience of anywhere!

Summer Teen is a free, completely virtual conference—no traveling and no cost.



And don't forget about your teens!

The online environment makes it possible to broadcast the keynote authors and panels to teens in the library, giving them a front row seat to hear from authors they'll love.

Visit www.slj.com/SummerTeen to register and to see the full schedule.



Teens' Top Ten

The Teens' Top Ten is a "teen choice" list, where teens nominate and choose their favorite books of the previous year! Exciting, right?! Participants must be between the ages twelve and eighteen.

Teens are encouraged to read the 25 nominees before the national Teens' Top Ten vote, which will take place online from August 15 - October 19 of this year. The winners will be announced during the week of October 21st.

The nominees are as follows:

- **Arnett, Mindee.** *The Nightmare Affair.* Tor Teen.
- **Banks, Anna.** *Of Triton.* Macmillan/Feiwel and Friends.
- **Bardugo, Leigh.** *Siege and Storm.* Macmillan/Henry Holt Books for Young Readers.
- **Block, Francesca Lia.** *Love In The Time Of Global Warming.* Macmillan/Henry Holt Books for Young Readers.
- **Charbonneau, Joelle.** *The Testing.* Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
- **Dashner, James.** *The Eye of Minds.* Random House/Delacorte Press.
- **Edwards, Janet.** *Earth Girl.* Prometheus Books /Pyr .
- **Gleason, Colleen.** *The Clockwork Scarab.* Chronicle Books.
- **Gray, Laurie.** *Maybe I Will.* Luminis Books.
- **Henry, April.** *The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die.* Henry Holt Books for Young Readers.
- **Howard, A. G.** *Splintered.* ABRAMS/Amulet Books.
- **Kate, Lauren.** *Teardrop.* Random House.
- **Konigsberg, Bill .** *Openly Straight.* Scholastic.
- **Laybourne, Emmy.** *Monument 14: Sky On Fire.* Macmillan/Feiwel & Friends.
- **Richards, Natalie D.** *Six Months Later.* Sourcebooks/Fire.
- **Rowell, Rainbow.** *Eleanor & Park.* Macmillan/St. Martin's Griffin.
- **Sales, Leila.** *This Song Will Save Your Life.* Macmillan/Farrar, Straus and Giroux.
- **Sanderson, Brandon.** *Steelheart.* Random House/Delacorte Press.
- **Sanderson, Brandon.** *The Rithmatist.* Tor Teen.
- **Smith, Jennifer E.** *This is What Happy Looks Like.* Little, Brown & Company.
- **Smith, Andrew.** *Winger.* Simon and Schuster.
- **Stine, R.L.** *A Midsummer Night's Scream.* Macmillan/Feiwel & Friends.
- **Tucholke, April.** *Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea.* Penguin/Dial.
- **Winters, Cat.** *In The Shadow of Blackbirds.* ABRAMS/Amulet Books.
- **Yancey, Rick.** *The 5th Wave.* Penguin/Putnam Juvenile.

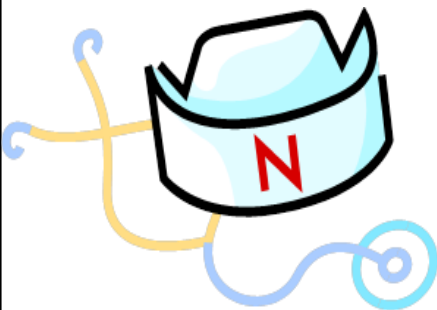
Health Happens in Libraries

The Affordable Care Act continues to bring health consumers into public libraries and, while they are here, they have lots of questions. Studies show that 72% of internet users have searched for health information online and that 1 in 3 adults have gone online to figure out symptoms and treatments for their own medical conditions.

Libraries are in a strong position to provide education for health consumers, mainly because libraries are trusted organizations. Directing patrons to high quality health information is key to maintaining that trust. Here are two useful websites:

Healthfinder.gov (<https://healthfinder.gov>) links to sites designed to educate consumers on how to prevent illness and stay healthy. It has a useful “Find Services Near You” feature.

MedlinePlus (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/>) is the National Institutes of Health's Web site for patients and their families and friends. Produced by the National Library of Medicine, it brings you information about diseases, conditions, and wellness issues in language you can understand. MedlinePlus offers reliable, up-to-date health information, anytime, anywhere, for free.



Providing privacy for patrons while they are using computers in your library is another concern. An up-to-date antivirus program and privacy screens on your computer monitors are considered essential. Additionally, here are two search engines you might want to recommend for health research:

<https://duckduckgo.com> – This search engine doesn't track your searches.

<https://www.startpage.com> – This search engine doesn't record or track your searches and it allows you to view pages anonymously.

#LibrariesMatter

By offering learning materials, assistance from librarians, a welcoming public space and a range of programs, libraries play an important role in giving everyone a chance to succeed. Libraries contribute to our quality of life. The American Library Association has developed four promotional videos to support early literacy, small business assistance, digital literacy, and services for New Americans. The videos last from 1 minute to 2 ½ minutes. You can access them at: <http://tinyurl.com/mr22kdc>. Post one on your webpage today. (And another one next week!)



Grants Available for Small Town Libraries

Eight public libraries received a helping hand recently, thanks to the generosity of a lifelong educator, the late Shirley Kreutz Bennett of Lincoln. Each year the Nebraska Community Foundation's Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund accepts proposals for matching grants for public libraries in communities with populations of fewer than 3,000.

Auld Public Library in Red Cloud received \$20,000 in matching funds to construct an addition to the existing library, add an elevator and restrooms that are ADA compliant, and complete a number of renovation and repair projects, including the installation of new plumbing and H/VAC system. Culbertson Public Library was awarded \$20,000 to construct and furnish a new 3,000-square-foot library. The community has already raised more than \$300,000 for the project. Jensen Memorial Library in Minden will use its \$7,000 grant to install new shelving and a dual book drop. Last year, this fund contributed to the renovation and expansion of the Hildreth Public Library. Grants are available in three areas; planning grants leading to accreditation; enhancement grants to improve library services; and facilities grants for new construction or the renovation, restoration or rehabilitation of current libraries.

If your community is under 3,000, consider applying for a project or program grant. Short applications received on or before October 1, 2014 will be considered for the grant cycle awarded in March 2015.

The [guidelines and short application form](#) are on NCF's website.

2014 Summer Reading Lists

Lists are available for K-8 students. Each is available to download for free on the ALSC website in color and black and white. Lists can be customized to include library information, summer hours and summer reading programs for children before making copies available to schools and patrons. The lists are available at: <http://www.ala.org/alsc/2014-summer-reading-list>.



"Summer reading helps prevent the summer slide that affects many children each year," said Starr LaTronica, ALSC president. "By encouraging children to stay engaged in reading throughout the summer at home and at their library they will be more prepared for the next school year."

The Summer Reading List was compiled and annotated by ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee and School-Age Programs and Services Committee through a 2013 Carnegie Whitney Grant funded by the American Library Association Publishing Committee. The 2014 list was updated by ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

About ALSC

ALSC, a division of the ALA, is the world's largest organization dedicated to the support and enhancement of library service to children. With a network of more than 4,000 children's and youth librarians, literature experts, publishers and educational faculty, ALSC is committed to creating a better future for children through libraries. To learn more about ALSC visit www.ala.org/alsc.

Republican Valley Library System
2727 West 2nd Street St. # 233
Hastings, NE 68901-4684



Serving Counties:

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Lincoln
Logan
McPherson
Nuckolls
Perkins
Phelps
Red Willow
Webster

Whatever the cost of our libraries,
the price is cheap compared to that
of an ignorant nation.

~Walter Cronkite